(b) if not, what action has been taken by NABARD to get its order implemented and by when it will likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

विदेशी स्कॉच व्हिस्की पर सीमा शुल्क

2141. **डा० जितेन्द्र कुमार जैन :**
श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज :

क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि फरवरी 1994 में ग्रांल इंडिया डिस्टलर एसोसिएशन ने सरकार को ज्ञापन दिया है जिसमें आग्रह किया गया है कि सरकार द्वारा विदेशी स्कॉच व्हिस्की पर से सीमा शुल्क 400 प्रतिशत से घटाकर 200 प्रतिशत कर देने से देश में डिस्टलरी उद्योग प्रभावित होगा ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या यह सही है कि सरकार ने विदेशी स्कांच व्हिस्की पर से सीमा शुल्क 400 प्रतिशत से घटाकर 200 प्रतिशत निर्धारित कर दिया है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो सीमा शुल्क की दर घटा देने से सरकार को कितने औसत वार्षिक राजस्व की हानि होने का अनुमान है ; और

(घ) किस कारण से सरकार को इस प्रकार का कदम उठाना पड़ा ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम० वी० चन्द्रशेखर मूर्ति): (क) स्कांच व्हिस्की पर 300/– रु० प्रति लिटर अ० शु० 400 प्रतिशत, इसमें से जो भी आंकिक हो, की दर से सीमाशुल्क लगता है । ग्रांल इंडिया डिस्टलर एसोसिएशन ने अपने बजट पूर्व ज्ञापन में यह कहा है कि यदि स्कॉच व्हिस्की पर आयात शुल्क में कोई भारी कमी की जाती है तो इससे स्वदेशी डिस्टलरी उद्योग प्रभावित होगा ।

(ख) वर्ष 1994-95 के बजट में विदेशी स्कांच व्हिस्की पर सीमा शुल्क की दरों में कोई परिवर्तन नहीं हुआ है ।

(ग) और (घ) ऊपर (ख) को देखते हुए , ये प्रश्न नहीं उठते ।

Posting of Civil Services personnel in the Banks

@2142. SHRI ASHIS SEN:
SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI:
SHRI M. A. BABY:
SHRI E. BALANANDAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to post Civil Services Personnel in the nationalised banks; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b) Government have not taken any policy decision to appoint Civil Services Personnel as Chairmen and Managing Directors/Executive Directors of nationalised banks. However, in exceptional cases, particularly when suitable executives are not available from the banking system, Government do appoint officers belonging to the Civil Services as Chairmen and Managing Directors/Executive Directors of banks, keeping in view the special circumstances obtaining in such banks.

Closure of Bank Branches in the country

2143. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in the Economic Times dated 15th Feb-

@Previously Unstarred Question 1491, transferred from the 3rd March, 1994.

ruary, 1994 under the heading 'Bank Union fear closure of 15,000 branches; and

(b) what are the names of the Banks alongwith the number of their respective branches which are likely to be closed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. BARAR AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have proposed to the banks concerned that some of the chronic loss making branches, which are unlikely to improve their financial position despite all efforts, may either be coverted into 'recovery' branches or closed down. The number of such branches would be as under:—

Name of the Bank	No. of Branches peoposed to be closed by 31-3-94.
1. Andhra Bank	8
2. Bank of India	10
3. Bank of Maharashtra	10
4. Central Bank of India	10
5. Indian Oversesas Bank	10
6. Syndicate Bank	11
7. United Bank of India	25
8 UCO Bank	20
Total	104

Resource crunch faced by corporate sector

2144. SHRI AHMED MOHAMEDBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the corporate sector continues to face resource crunch despite 4 per cent reduction in the minimum lending rate and a 3.7 per cent cut in the statutory liquidity ratio;

(b) if so, whether the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry have submitted a memorandum to RBI and has sought larger availability of credit to the Corporate Sector at a lower rate of interest;

(c) if so, whether it has also been pointed out by the ASSOCHAM that banks are still reluctant to put their money in free quilt-edged securities;

(d) if so, whether all the points mentioned in the Memo have been considered by Government;

(e) if so, to what extent they have been implemented; and

(f) what steps are being taken to help the industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (f) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have informed that the Assoicated Chamber of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) had submitted in December, 1993 a Note to them on various issues which included inter-alia, issues related to availability of credit to Corporate sector, rate of interest and export credit. These issues were discussed by RBI with the representatives of ASSOCHAM on December 23, 1993. The representatives of ASSOCHAM were informed inter-alia that RBI had advised banks to meet the genuine and felt requirements of borrowers and also to ensure that the delegated credit sanctioning powers were duly exercised and pending proposals for new loans as also renewals be processed within a maximum period of